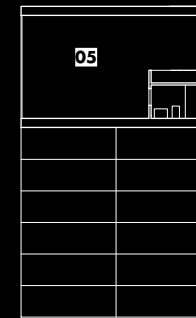
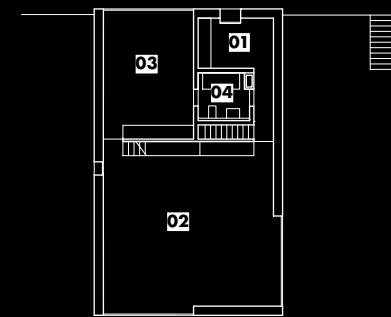


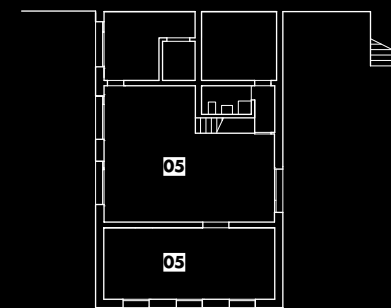
SECTION.



ROOF TOP.



FIRST FLOOR.



GROUND FLOOR.

01 ENTRANCE
02 LIVING ROOM /
KITCHEN
03 BEDROOM
04 BATHROOM
05 OFFICES

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

DEGELO ARCHITEKTEN

HOUSE

BÜSSERACH / SWITZERLAND



TIME AND THE WEATHER WILL LEAVE THEIR MARK ON THE FAÇADE OF HEINRICH DEGELO'S HOUSE, TO THE DISPLEASURE OF HIS NEIGHBOURS.

TEXT KATHARINA MARCHAL
PHOTOS RUEDI WALTI

Büsserach is a small community in German-speaking Switzerland whose character is influenced by agriculture and traditional handicrafts – especially saw mills. Villagers are sceptical about the rebuilt barn and workshop whose raw materiality goes against the prevalent opinion that wood and metal have to be painted or have their surfaces treated to prevent them from going grey and getting

rusty. But exactly this kind of natural ageing process is an important part of the architectural concept. 'Leaving the materials untreated and raw imparts another concept of time,' explains architect Heinrich Degelo. And time – and especially weather – will leave their traces behind on the façade and the roof. A process helped along by the absence of gutters and drainpipes and a roof overhang, as well as by window frames set flush in the façade.

In earlier incarnations, the shed, which now resembles a minimalist sculpture, served as a storage space and workshop and was rebuilt into a studio and residential building on a tight budget. The ground floor has remained intact. The new attic's walls, gables and roof

surfaces are assembled out of plywood panels like a cardboard house. The exterior walls of the wooden volume are clad with raw pine wood, and a small roof studio sits like a birds' nest on the edge of the roof. Untreated steel tin roofing echoes the rusty roofs that one encounters in agricultural outbuildings. The living storey's interior space is completely lined with pine boards. The unified materialization creates a homelike atmosphere, and a frame for sweeping vistas onto the landscape. Floor-to-ceiling windows offer a view in every direction. They act as enormous images with constantly changing light effects.

WWW.DEGELO.CH